



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held October 7, 2008, the Board took the following action:

95-C

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Yaroslavsky:

“The California Oak Woodlands Conservation Program is an innovative State program that encourages local governments and other agencies to work cooperatively with private land owners to preserve the approximately 80% of oak woodlands that currently sit on privately held land. In addition to promoting sound land use planning policies that will help protect oak woodlands, this program also provides funding to help preserve oak woodlands by purchasing conservation easements from willing property owners and providing other financial incentives to encourage the preservation of high quality oak woodlands and the habitat they provide.

“Several Northern California counties have begun to participate in this program through the creation of a mandatory Oak Woodlands Management Plan. Given the critical importance of preserving oak woodlands, the County of Los Angeles should also join in this important effort. To that end, I have allocated \$25,000 of Third District discretionary funds to further this endeavor and help provide the matching funds requirement for the Wildlife Conservation Board grant discussed below.

“Creating an Oak Woodlands Management Plan will not only help the County fund, design, and implement efforts to preserve oak woodlands, developing this kind of comprehensive management plan will also help the County quantify the economic and environmental benefits of preserving oak woodlands. The benefits include but are not limited to: providing enormous scenic value to residents of and visitors to this region; sequestering over 325 million metric tons of carbon that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere; and providing critical habitat for numerous endangered, threatened, and other sensitive species.

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“To help the County complete this endeavor, the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains is leading an effort to develop the Los Angeles Oak Woodland Habitat Conservation Management Plan to meet the requirements of the Oak Woodlands Conservation Act, 2001, and to help inform future County land use planning efforts. This is an important effort that the entire Board of Supervisors should wholeheartedly support.

“I therefore recommend that the Board of Supervisors ask appropriate County staff to participate in the California Oak Woodlands Conservation Program, an innovative State program that encourages local governments and other agencies to work cooperatively with private land owners to preserve the approximately 80% of oak woodlands that currently sit on privately held land; and send a five-signature letter to the Wildlife Conservation Board supporting the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains’ grant application for funding to prepare the Los Angeles Oak Woodland Habitat Conservation Management Plan.”

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“Preserving the remaining critical oak woodlands in unincorporated Los Angeles County is essential to protecting this important environmental and scenic resource. In the course of preparing the Oak Woodlands Management Plan it is important that all perspectives be considered. This includes those individuals in the development community that will likely be impacted by the California Oak Woodlands Conservation Program. It is also important to hold community outreach meetings in various areas around the County, especially the North County, where many of the privately-owned oak woodlands are located.”

Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a suggestion that Supervisor Yaroslavsky's motion be amended to direct the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Planning to:

1. Contact the Los Angeles Oak Woodland Conservation Strategic Alliance and request that a member be added representing the Building Industry Association;

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2. Contact the Project Coordinator of the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains and request that noticed community outreach meetings be held in the Antelope, San Gabriel, Santa Clarita, and San Fernando Valleys;
3. Present to the Fifth District Supervisor the required documentation to allocate \$25,000 from the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Trust Fund to supplement the \$25,000 of Third District discretionary funds for the creation of the Oak Woodlands Management Plan; and
4. Prepare written reports to the Board on a quarterly basis on the progress of the Oak Woodlands Management Plan.

After discussion, Supervisor Yaroslavsky accepted Supervisor Antonovich's amendment, and on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Requested appropriate County staff to participate in the California Oak Woodlands Conservation Program, an innovative State program that encourages local governments and other agencies to work cooperatively with private land owners to preserve the approximately 80% of oak woodlands that currently sit on privately held land;
2. Ordered that a five-signature letter be sent to the Wildlife Conservation Board supporting the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains' grant application for funding to prepare the Los Angeles Oak Woodland Habitat Conservation Management Plan; and
3. Instructed the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Planning to:
 - Contact the Los Angeles Oak Woodland Conservation Strategic Alliance and request that a member be added representing the Building Industry Association;
 - Contact the Project Coordinator of the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains and request that noticed community outreach meetings be held in the Antelope, San Gabriel, Santa Clarita, and San Fernando Valleys; and

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- Present to the Fifth District Supervisor the required documentation to allocate \$25,000 from the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Trust Fund to supplement the \$25,000 of Third District discretionary funds for the creation of the Oak Woodlands Management Plan; and
- Prepare written reports to the Board on a quarterly basis on the progress of the Oak Woodlands Management Plan.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Director of Planning